

Appl. No. : 09/965,054
Filed : September 26, 2001

REMARKS

The undersigned thanks Examiner Johnstone for the telephone interview on September 11, 2003. The present Amendment is submitted based on the interview.

Interview Summary

At the interview, the undersigned clarified the recitation "arrange said ply cord substantially parallel to each other" in Claim 5. That is, the recitation includes not only the arrangements indicated in Figs. 8, 11, and 12 showing discrete lengths of the at least one ply cord, but also the arrangements indicated in Figs. 3(a)(b) and 6(a)(b) showing at least one continuous ply cord. The Examiner understood the above but pointed out that amendments clarifying the above would raise the issue of new issue and would not be entered.

Claim Amendments

Claim 5 has been amended with an attempt to merely clarify the invention. Claims 1-4 and 9-15 have been canceled as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claims 7 and 8 have been withdrawn from further consideration. However, Applicant respectfully requests rejoining these claims if the generic claim, Claim 5, is held allowed. The amendment raises the issue of neither new matter nor new issue. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 5, 6, and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

With regard to the recitation "arrange said ply cord substantially parallel to each other" in Claim 5, the Examiner asserts that there may not be support because Figs. 8, 11, and 12 show that *discrete lengths* of the at least one ply cord supplied from the supply head are arranged substantially parallel to each other.

However, Figs. 8, 11, and 12 are schematic views wherein the arrangements on the sticking surface are schematically indicated by discrete lengths. The substantially parallel arrangement can be but need not be accomplished by discrete lengths (i.e., discrete or

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discontinuous fragments) of the ply cord and can be accomplished by at least one continuous ply cord as Figs. 3(a)(b) and 6(a)(b) show.

Accordingly, the recitation at issue has been amended to read "arrange said at least one ply cord in substantially parallel lines on the sticking surface", which includes both the discrete length cord arrangement and the continuous cord arrangement.

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining concerns which might prevent the prompt allowance of the application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number appearing below.

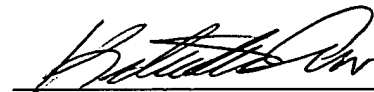
Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: September 16, 2003

By:



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